AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims by deleting the language which is marked by a strikeout (i.e., patent) and inserting the language which is underlined (i.e., patent).

Claims 1 - 19 are canceled without prejudice.

Please accept the following New Claims 20-39.

- 20. (New) An apparatus to teach a subject to vocally emulate sounds comprising: a presence detecting sensor for detecting the presence of a subject;
- a system for playing back a predetermined message, wherein said system initiates playback of said predetermined message upon detection of the presence of said subject by said presence detecting sensor;
 - a housing which contains said sensor and said playback initiation system;
 a bird perch, said bird perch for holding said subject, said subject being a bird; and
 a trough, wherein said trough is inserted within a space formed within said bird perch.
- 21. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 20 further comprising a system for selecting a prerecorded sound to be played, wherein said system comprises a selector switch for choosing a desired prerecorded sound.
- 22. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 20 wherein said presence detecting sensor comprises a movement sensing device.

- 23. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 20 wherein said presence detecting sensor comprises a light sensing device for detecting the absence of light due to the presence of said subject.
- 24. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 20 wherein said presence detecting sensor comprises a laser and a laser detection sensor.
- 25. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 20 wherein said presence detecting sensor for detecting the presence of said subject comprises a heat sensing device.
- 26. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 20, wherein said bird perch is detachable.
- 27. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 20, further comprising a mirror.
- 28. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 27, wherein said mirror is contained within said housing, said mirror providing visual stimulation to said subject.
- 29. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 20, further comprising a means for attaching said apparatus to a birdcage.

- 30. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 29, wherein said means for attaching said apparatus to said birdcage comprises a bracket.
- 31. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 20, wherein said apparatus is capable of freely standing.
- 32. (New) An apparatus to teach a subject to vocally emulate sounds comprising:

 a presence detecting sensor for detecting the presence of a subject, wherein said presence detecting sensor comprises a laser and a laser detection sensor;

a system for playing back a predetermined message, wherein said system initiates playback of said predetermined message upon detection of the presence of said subject by said presence detecting sensor; and

a housing which contains said sensor and said playback initiation system.

- 33. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 32 further comprising a system for selecting a prerecorded sound to be played, wherein said system comprises a selector switch for choosing a desired prerecorded sound.
- 34. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 32, wherein said bird perch is detachable.
- 35. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 32, further comprising a mirror.

- 36. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 35, wherein said mirror is contained within said housing, said mirror providing visual stimulation to said subject.
- 37. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 32, further comprising a means for attaching said apparatus to a birdcage.
- 38. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 37, wherein said means for attaching said apparatus to said birdcage comprises a bracket.
- 39. (New) An apparatus as recited in Claim 32, wherein said apparatus is capable of freely standing.